

DATE: MARCH 2, 1941 -

PLACE: HOME OF MRS ROSAMOND STEWART - Newark, N. J.

PURPOSE: COMMISSIONER PEARCE H. FRANKLIN greeting representatives of the
BEAUTY CULTURE PROFESSION - (about 50 beauticians present) together
with a few laymen - Press photographers and Press representatives.

Commissioner Franklin introduced individually to each person present,
at which time he shook hands with each person.

Commissioner Franklin then spoke relative to the beauty culture
profession in the city of Newark, and congratulates them on desire to establish
sanitation laws governing the profession. Suggests that a committee of three
of five persons be appointed to wait on the Commissioners with a view towards
drawing up a City ordinance governing sanitation in beauty shoppes, etc.

At this juncture - MRS WALTER E. FENDERSON questions the Commissioner
thusly:

MRS FENDERSON: Commissioner I am wondering if you are aware of the discrimina-
tion going on in the hospitals throughout the city, and just what is your view
concerning this very vital question which affects the Negroes of the City. I
would hate to be taken sick, and have to die, as Jimmie Thigpen, and Mrs. Free-
man and other members of my group did, in the basement of the Beth Israel
Hospital. That's a minority group operating that hospital, and I can't feel sorry
for them, when they mistreat and discriminate against my people.

COMMISSIONER FRANKLIN: Of course, Mrs Fenderson you know we have no jurisdic-
tion over the Beth Israel Hospital, or other hospitals of that type. As to
the city hospital I was not aware of any segregation.

(DR. E. MAE MacCARROLL enters the room at this time, just having arrived)

MRS. FENDERSON: Well possibly Dr. MacC. can throw some light on that.

COMMISSIONER FRANKLIN: Dr. Mac. Carroll what do you find --- (at this point
the Commissioner notes a couple of persons seated in front of him busily
taking notes) COMMISSIONER: Oh, oh - aw - is this the PRESS.

(DR. Wm. Mahley)

ONE PRESS REPRESENTATIVE: Yes Commissioner, that's right.

COMMISSIONER: Oh! I wouldn't have anything like that - Aw- this is strictly
confidential - we are just here discussing matters confidentially - and I
would want to make this a campaign issue for various reasons.

(~~Dr. Wm. Mahley~~ Sally L. Cooke)

PRESS REPRESENTATIVE: Allright Commissioner. Off the record? - Yes?

COMMISSIONER: Yes (laughs).

DR. MACCARROLL: Well in the City hospital we find that the Negroes are all

placed in the solarium, or all together as near as possible in Wards.

COMMISSIONER: But Dr., there are no longer any solariums. So we wouldn't say they are placed in the solariums. Those were done away with since the hospital is overcrowded, and are now actual wards. Isn't that so?

DR. MACCARROLL: Well yes, but they are all placed together in those particular places.

MRS FENDERSON: Then when a call is put through for hospitalization, it is usually asked is the patient "colored" or "white."

COMMISSIONER: Is that so?

DR. MACCARROLL: Yes, it is so in all the hospitals, and in our own Health Dept.

COMMISSIONER: But Dr., I have heard that it exists in the hospitals, but why in our Dept?

DR. MACCARROLL: Well the reason for this I am not aware. I have wondered myself.

COMMISSIONER: Well possibly it is for a matter of record.

DR. MACCARROLL: Well they couldn't want it for record, if they are not going to hospitalize the patient.

COMMISSIONER: Well I should think in the City Hospital, since it is overcrowded the reason would be so that they could advise the other hospitals when they contact them to hospitalize the particular case

DR. MACCARROLL: Well in our Dept. we have only one visiting Colored Dr. which is DR. Phillips, ~~and Dr. Phillips~~

COMMISSIONER: Well it is certain that Dr. Phillips cannot get around to all of the patients.

(DR. WM. MABLEY)

MEMBER OF THE PRESS: Well perhaps they want to know the color of the patient, because they don't want Dr. Phillips. (Audience laughs).

(DR. WM. MABLEY)

MEMBER OF THE PRESS: Well Commissioner what about this appointment of Negroes to the City Hospital Board.

COMMISSIONER: Well that is not under our jurisdiction.

(DR. WM. MABLEY)

MEMBER OF THE PRESS: You mean to say the Commissioners have nothing to say about how the City hospital is run. The people pay taxes to support that hospital.

COMMISSIONER: Well, you see that's something which has existed long before my time. In fact ever since the hospital was established. The doctors on the board as a matter of course have their sons, or relatives succeed them. If a doctor dies, automatically his son or some other relative succeeds him to the Board. But if we can just get the appropriation for a new hospital. Sometime ago I had it within my grasp and it slipped out. But this time I believe that I will get it, and I know we will have to enlarge the hospital, because the facilities are inadequate, and then something can be done about remedying this situation which exists.

(CDR Wm. McLLay)

MEMBER OF THE PRESS: Well then you would say that that's a "Hitler" up there.
It's not a democracy at all.

(EVERYONE LAUGHS)

COMMISSIONER: Well something like that.

(Meeting closes and the persons present sit around and talk,
while being served refreshments)